

REPORT NO.

CD NO. 25X1

DATE DISTR. 5 November 1951

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

**SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.**

25X1

# REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U. S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The sizes of the parading crowds in various cities on May 1, 1951 were published as follows: Shanghai, 2,430,000 persons; Peking, 800,000; Mukden, 800,000; Tientsin, 610,000; Chungking, 600,000; Canton, 500,000; Wuhan, 400,000; Sian, 300,000.
2. These figures, although probably exaggerated, more than anything else show the manpower the Communist organization can mobilize in the urban areas for mass action, in spite of the involuntary character of probably 80% of the participants. Perhaps never before in China have there been mass demonstrations of such magnitude. In spite of the use of force and other means, the KMT regime never could muster such mass strength in public action. In almost all cases shown above, the demonstrations drew approximately half of the total population of each city.
3. But the Communists, both low ranking cadres and higher officials, regard the demonstrations as a true indication of the support of the people for the new regime and its policies. When the businessmen of Tientsin, including very prominent manufacturers and merchants, staged the first mass demonstration against America in the Korean war last January, a highly placed party member was asked whether the business people were really showing their attitudes and sentiments by such a demonstration. The party member was irritated by such doubt of the sincerity of the participants. He described at some length how happy and jubilant the crowds were in the first million-man demonstration in October 1950 in Shanghai. He read real joy and enthusiasm in the street folk dances and music in the parade, seemingly ignorant of the compulsive character of the participation by the people. Such is the Communists' estimate of the moral strength of their own cause.
4. [ ] the grand marshal of the Tientsin demonstration [ ] owns many lines of manufacturing industry, and the present

**CONFIDENTIAL**

[illegible]

Document No.

### No Change in Class.

**Declassified**

**Class. Changed To: TS S G**

2-00457R09100210010-1

Date: 12/23/2006

**Ex:**

STAT

CONFIDENTIAL  
SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1



- 2 -

government has been lending money to prevent a collapse of his industrial empire. Whatever his attitude may be toward the government's foreign policy, he knew what was good for him when he was confronted with the suggestion that a businessmen's demonstration be held, and that he would have to use his extensive business connections and prestige to lead such a demonstration to a success. Asked how he felt about such a demonstration, the vice-president of a local branch of a well-known bank who was among the marching crowds said, "We were told to go, and that is that. Just a couple of weeks ago, I went to a businessmen's political meeting in Shanghai. One man asked what the businessmen's policy should be if there were any change in the international situation. A fierce looking Party man asked what he meant by change and in what international situation. The questioner paled and sat down. What can we businessmen say about anything these days?"

5. Against such a background, and as a standard procedure of mass meetings and demonstrations, a telegram of greeting and respect was sent to MAO Tse-tung by the Tientsin demonstration committee. MAO was surprised at such patriotic and enthusiastic support by the bourgeoisie, and issued a salutary statement of encouragement to the Tientsin businessmen. Soon, businessmen in Peking, Shanghai, Canton and other major cities followed the lead of Tientsin and duly staged their respective demonstrations and sent similar telegrams to MAO guaranteeing their full support for the government policy in Korea. Thus, in the mind of the party authorities, the business class throughout the nation has risen in support of the government's foreign policy.
6. But, for the younger people whose plastic emotion has not yet been seasoned, the mere physical participation in a demonstration has the psychological effect of producing sympathy for the alleged cause, an effect that deepens with repetition.

CONFIDENTIAL